POLICE (WATERFORD).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 11 March 1867;—*for*,

COPY "of CORRESPONDENCE between Sir *Henry Winston Barron* and the Inspector General of Constabulary in *Ireland*, concerning the REMOVAL of the POLICE from *Ballymacant* Barrack to *Ring*, in the County of *Waterford*."

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE between Sir *Henry Winston Barron*, Bart., M.P., and the Inspector General of Constabulary, *Ireland*, regarding the REMOVAL of the CONSTABULARY from *Ballymacant* to *Ring*.

— No. 1. —

Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P., to the Inspector General of Constabulary.

38, Wellington Square, Hastings,
13 November 1866.

Sir,

IN reference to the report about the Ballymacant Barracks, County Waterford, I beg to observe that they are not old by any means. I built them myself in the most substantial manner with thick stone walls. They have been approved of by two county inspectors. They are not dilapidated. A considerable sum of money has been expended on them within a few years; I have not seen them so as to examine them closely since last August, when I visited them; and the men inhabiting them made no complaint to me, though I entered the barracks and spoke to them. They possibly may want a few slates or whitewash. As to moving the men to Ring, I strongly object to it on public grounds. Ring is in an angle or peninsula nearly surrounded by the sea; it leads nowhere; it is no thoroughfare, it is in fact a "*cul de sac*." Ballymacant Barrack is near the high road from Youghal to Dungarvan, and on the high road to the sea from the very thickly inhabited district of Slievegerine; in fact, it is near the cross roads most frequented in that county. It is about half a mile from the Catholic chapel, and about the same distance from the ruin of the old church where the churchyard of the district is situated.

Until the police were established at Ballymacant, the district was the most lawless in the whole county. The site was approved of by two county inspectors, and improvements made in the barrack at their suggestions.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *H. Winston Barron.*

— No. 2. —

Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P., to Major *Esmonde*, Deputy Inspector General.

2, Halkin-street, London, S.W.
29 December 1866.

Dear Esmonde,

I THIS day had a letter from Mr. Henry A. Fitzgerald, the nearest magistrate to Ring, where it is proposed to remove the police to, from Ballymacant. He states that the county inspector of constabulary was the first person who brought the matter before the notice of the magistrates at quarter sessions at Dungarvan. I also learn that only one magistrate resident near the locality voted for the removal, and that magistrate has police stationed within a few hundred

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hundred yards of his house. I understand from my agent, that the county inspector now rests his objection to Ballymacant Barrack, solely on the locality. He declines having new barracks built on a new site on the main road to Youghal and Dungarvan and nearer to Ring. He insists on Ring, which is without exception the worst position in the county. It is in an angle nearly surrounded by the sea; it leads to no place; it is no thoroughfare, and quite a small hamlet or village. By moving the police there, a very large district will be left totally unprovided by (*sic*) police, I believe the longest district in the county that is thickly inhabited. I hope that this double injustice will not be sanctioned.

(signed) *H. Winston Barron.*

— No. 3. —

Shuldham P. Crawford, Esq., Assistant Inspector General to Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
17 January 1867.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, addressed to Major Esmonde, I beg to inform you that the papers relative to the Ballymacant Barracks are with the county inspector, and nothing can be decided until they are returned.

(signed) *S. P. Crawford.*

— No. 4. —

Shuldham P. Crawford, Esq., Assistant Inspector General, to Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
1 February 1867.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter of the 17th ultimo, I have now to inform you that the local magistrates at Dungarvan being unanimously of opinion that the interests of the public service demand the removal of the constabulary from Ballymacant to Ring, and the county inspector being also of the same opinion, the Inspector General has approved of the change being carried out.

(signed) *S. P. Crawford.*

— No. 5. —

Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P., to the Inspector General of Constabulary.

Sir, London, 4 February 1867.

Yours of the 1st February is come to hand. In answer, I beg to state that in the first communication on the barracks at Ballymacant, the allegations were that the barrack was old and damp; in answer, I wrote that the barrack was built by me substantially of stone, lime, and mortar, with thick walls, and was not damp. At most, it wanted whitewashing, and perhaps a few slates. No answer was given to my statements; but now a new ground is taken, namely, the wish of the magistrates. To this my answer was that Ring, on public grounds, was objectionable, being in a corner, a *cul de sac* leading nowhere, and nearly surrounded by the sea, besides being a small hamlet where the police would be quite useless. No answer has been given to these facts. I now beg to ask that no step may be taken to make any change until you have time to examine into the facts of the case, through a person totally unconnected with the county in any way. I now offer again to build a new barrack nearer to Ring, or to make any improvements in the present barrack that may be pointed out as necessary. I again repeat that only one magistrate connected with this part of the county voted for its removal. I go further, and assert that the great majority of the magistrates who voted for its removal never saw the barrack or Ring, where it is proposed to move the police to.

(signed) *H. Winston Barron.*

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— No. 6. —

Shuldham P. Crawford, Esq. Assistant Inspector General, to Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
20 February 1867.

Sir,

I HAVE to acquaint you that your letter of the 4th instant having been brought before the magistrates at Dungarvan, they adhere to the former decision that the constabulary at Ballymacant should be removed to Ring, they being familiar with the districts in question; in which opinion the county and sub-inspector fully concur. Under such circumstances the Inspector General regrets he is unable to cancel the arrangement already made.

(signed) *S. P. Crawford.*

— No. 7. —

Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P., to the Inspector General of Constabulary.

House of Commons, 1 March 1867.

Sir,

I REGRET that you should consider it your duty to refuse my very reasonable proposition respecting the removal of the Ballymacant constabulary to Ring, as contained in my last letter, namely, to defer that removal until some person totally unconnected with the county of Waterford, and, therefore, divested of any local influence, could have an opportunity of judging on the spot of how very injurious the removal must be to the public service, and how particularly objectionable Ring is on account of its position. I am ready to prove on oath all I have stated by credible witnesses. You have, no doubt, been imposed on by misstatements; none of my various objections have been answered or even alluded to in your letter, which, to say the least, is very extraordinary. I have, therefore, no alternative except to move in the House of Commons for the production of the whole correspondence, and then to bring the subject before the House subsequently by notice.

(signed) *H. Winston Barron.*

— No. 8. —

Shuldham P. Crawford, Esq., to Sir *H. W. Barron*, Bart., M.P.

Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle,
2 March 1867.

Sir,

ADVERTING to your letter of the 1st instant, I have to inform you that the Inspector General regrets much that his communication of the 20th ultimo has proved so unsatisfactory.

(signed) *S. P. Crawford.*

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POLICE (WATERFORD).

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE between Sir *Henry Winston Barron* and the Inspector General of Constabulary in *Ireland*, concerning the REMOVAL of the POLICE from *Ballymacant* Barrack to *Ring*, in the County of *Waterford*.

(*Sir Henry Winston Barron.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,* 28 *March* 1867.

Under 1 *oz.*

166.

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